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ADVOCATE OF PEACE.

JAN. AND FEB., 1847.

NEW VOLUME.

THE Advocate has been the past year in the hands of a gentleman distinguished by his zeal and ability in the advocacy of our cause; but his absence from the country, and his purpose of henceforth devoting himself chiefly to the League of Universal Brotherhood, oblige us to take our periodical again into our own hands. We shall hope, however, for continued aid from all the late contributors to its pages, and trust it will thus become a still worthier and more effective organ of our Society, and a fuller record of its operations, and of whatever is doing in any way through the world to hasten the promised era when nations shall learn war no more.

NEED OF THE ADVOCATE.

Some of our friends, not duly reflecting on the necessities of the case, and looking mainly at the large, if not excessive increase of periodicals at the present day, have occasionally urged us to discontinue ours, and depend on religious newspapers. We gladly would, if we safely could; but such a step, we fear, would be fatal to our cause. Every considerable enterprise of the kind has its weekly, monthly or quarterly organ of communication with the public; and we too must have ours, or drop from our hands the staff of progress and success. We hope yet to enlist the entire press of our country secular as well as religious, in habitual, earnest, effective advocacy of peace; but our experience has already taught us the impossibility of *relying* with safety upon even the best papers to plead our cause through sunshine and storm. They *may* do—they *have* done, much for it; but they cannot be expected to meet all its emergencies promptly and fully. It must have a tongue and a trumpet of its own to speak when it pleases, and what it pleases.

SUPPORT AND CIRCULATION OF THE ADVOCATE.

We have no funds for the publication of our periodical. It depends solely on what is received from the friends of peace either as subscribers for the work, or as donors to the Society; and we trust that, in both these ways, many will contribute to its support and its usefulness. It is our chief pioneer, our most effective auxiliary; and we earnestly hope, that persons interested in the progress of our cause, will not only secure it for themselves, but will aid in procuring new patrons. It goes not only to regular subscribers, but to all members of the Society; and such is every annual contributor of two dollars, and every minister of the gospel who preaches once a year on the subject of peace, and takes up a collection in behalf of the Society. May we not hope that many pastors will in this way secure the Advocate? The value of the collection may, if desired, be returned in our tracts or other publications.

 COURSE OF THE SOCIETY.

Our Society has from its origin adopted the policy of seeking the co-operation of all, without distinction of sect or party, that are willing for *any* reason to labor with us for the great and sole object of our cause—the entire abolition of war, and the permanent reign of peace over the whole earth. We have never taken any measures *designedly* at variance with such a course; but one article of our constitution was construed by not a few friends of peace both in and out of the Society, as excluding them, in strict consistency, from membership and co-operation. The difficulty was deeply felt by the late Mr Ladd; and, for the purpose of obviating it, resolutions explanatory of the article in question as consistent with the Society's uniform course of admitting every class of actual or active peace-men, were under his auspices appended to the constitution.

This measure partially sufficed for a series of years. At length, however, some indications, regarded as more radical, in the management of the Society, drew into it a few from the ranks of the late "New England Non-Resistance Society," one of whom, well known for his hostility to government as inconsistent in his view with Christianity, made himself a member just before our last annual meeting, and at that meeting declared, though always before opposed to the Society as by no means radical enough for him, that